

ship of Hull, there may be about one hundred and twenty. In that of Eardley, three settlers. In Onslow there is only one. In the extent of ninety miles on the north side of the River Ottawa, there is only the Banks of one Township, which is that of Hull, in cultivation, and that extent is about seven thousand acres. In all the other Townships there is not more than three hundred acres in all, in a state of cultivation. The rest is still a perfect wilderness.

Q. To what cause do you attribute these excellent lands remaining waste?

A. I should think from the Banks of the Ottawa to the extent of about five miles, being granted to individuals who have within the last twenty year been in possession of them, but have shown no disposition of settling them, nor of permitting any persons to do so, except at a price of from four to six dollars per acre. Another cause also, is that the proprietors of part of those lands cannot be discovered. I could mention also that for want of finding out who the Proprietor of an extent of about one thousand acres in the Township of Buckingham, is, it has been impossible to erect a ferry across the river *aux Lièvres*, and a number of cattle have been lost in consequence thereof, crossing the mouth of that River. The great expense which has been laid out by the Commissioners for the County of York, in making a Road from the head of the Long Sault to the Lake of the *Chats*, is in some measure rendered useless for the present, by reason of not being able to establish this Ferry. The back lands of the said Townships are yet waste, ungranted, and not surveyed, with the exception of that of Hull.

Captain Fougère appeared before your Committee.

Q. Do you know the Magdalen Islands?

A. Yes, I know them.

Q. How many of them are there to the best of your knowledge?

A. Five.

Q. What is their extent?

A. Brion Island may be sixty or seventy arpents square. The two Bird Islands may be four square arpents each in extent. Entrée Island may be nearly one hundred square arpents in extent. L'Isle Royale, on which there are settlements, is seventeen leagues in length. In some places it is about three miles wide, in other places only an arpent. Its breadth is very unequal. These Islands produce absolutely nothing; even Potatoes generally fail there.

Q. What was the number of Inhabitants on those Islands when you first knew them?

A. About fourteen or fifteen.

Q. What was the number of Inhabitants on those Islands when Sir Isaac Coffin took possession of them?

A. There were about eighty families.

Q. Whence came the first inhabitants of those Islands?

A. They were Acadians or Canadians.

Q. How many are there at present on those Islands?